

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended): A sampling/analysis member ~~in a sampling and analysis member~~ which is used to assay for an analyte of interest in a sample comprising:

(a) a sampling wand having a sampling swab for collecting the sample of the analyte of interest; and

(b) an analysis structure for receiving the sample of the analyte of interest rinsed from the sampling swab and for retaining ~~a medium with which member retains~~ the analyte for the relatively rapid detection of the presence of the analyte of interest in the sample, ~~the improvement which comprises as the medium~~ the analysis structure having a reagent disc comprising a porous, non-fibrous absorbent polymeric material which ~~has an absorptive capacity between about 5 g water/g of polymeric material to about 15 g water/g of polymeric material, and a pore size between about 0.004 mm to about 1.2 mm~~ onto which a reactant system has been loaded by contacting a solution of the reactant system in a solvent with the polymeric material and removing the solvent from the polymeric material.

2.(Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 1, wherein the polymeric material has a density of from about 0.05 g/cc to about 0.1 g/cc, and an average pore size of from about 0.2 mm to about 1 mm, a pore size range of from about 0.004 to about 1.2 mm, and an absorptive capacity of from about 5 g water/g of polymeric material to about 15 g water/g or polymeric material.

3.(Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 1, wherein the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol and polyvinyl acetal.

Claims 4-5 (Cancelled).

6.(Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 3, wherein the polymeric material has a cylindrical shape.

7.(Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 6, wherein the polymeric material has a height which is less than a diameter.

Claims 8-9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 1 ~~Claim 9~~, wherein the polymeric material ~~is a reagent disc which~~ has a density of about 0.05 g/cc; an average pore size of from 0.9 to 1 mm; a pore size range of about 0.2 mm to about 1.2 mm; and an absorptive capacity of approximately 15 g of water/g of polymeric material.

Claim 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 1 ~~Claim 11~~, wherein the solvent has been removed from the polymeric material by a method selected from the group consisting of evaporation, sublimation, freeze-drying or lyophilization.

13. (Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 1 ~~Claim 9~~, wherein the reactant system capable of undergoing a reaction with adenosine triphosphate (ATP) to generate chemiluminescence as a product of the reaction has been loaded onto the reagent disc.

14.(Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 1 ~~Claim 9~~, wherein the reactant system comprising a luciferase/luciferin system has been loaded onto the reagent disc.

15.(Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 14, wherein the reactant system further comprises trehalose in an amount effective to increase the luminescence emission by a factor of from about 25 to about 100%.

16.(Currently Amended): The sampling/analysis ~~sampling and analysis~~ member of Claim 14, wherein the reactant system further comprises trehalose in an amount effective to increase the luminescence emission by a factor of more than 100%.